

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 9169

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日一初月四閏年三十緒光

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MAY 28th, 1897.

一拜禮

號三十二月五年癸辛

(PRICE 2 1/2 PER MONTH)

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.
May 21, DON JUAN, Spanish str., 654, José Marques, Manila 18th May, General—BRANDAO & Co.
May 21, BAYLEY, British steamer, 1,035, A. Child, Kuching 17th May, Coals—MISRU BUNN KAISHA.
May 21, HAIPHONG, British steamer, 1,122, Ashtor, Foochow 17th May, Amoy 18th, and Swatow 20th, General—DEUGLAS LAUREN & Co.
May 21, PICCOLA, German steamer, 874, Ph. Nissen, Singapore 15th May, and, Hoihow 20th, General—BUN HIN & Co.
May 21, H. PRINZESSIN, German bark, 554, A. Schömann, Singapore 14th May, Timber—MELCHERS & Co.
May 21, DUBROG, German steamer, 921, C. F. Bertelsen, Singapore 15th May, General—BUN HIN & Co.
May 21, PROSPER, British steamer, 1,377, G. Hooley, Saigon 17th May, Rice and Paddy—ARMHOLD, KARBURG & Co.
May 21, WHAMPOA, British steamer, 1,109, E. Fawcett, Whampoa 21st May, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.
May 22, P. CHONG, Chinese Kiao, British str., 1,012, H. H. Lightfoot, Saigon 15th May, Rice and General—YUN FAT HONG.
May 22, ULYSSES, British steamer, 1,391, A. W. Bromer, Shanghai, Amoy and Swatow 21st May, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.
May 22, AMOT, British steamer, 814, R. Koller, Whampoa 22nd May, General—SIEMSEN & Co.
May 22, TANALIS, French steamer, 1,733, A. Paul, Yokohama 15th May, Mails and General—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
May 22, KWANG-LEE, Chinese steamer, 1,503, Wells, Whampoa 22nd May, General—C. M. S. N. Co.
CLEARANCES.
At the Harbour Master's Office.
21st May.
Patroclus, British str., for Shanghai.
Thales, British str., for Swatow.
Benemer, British str., for Wooneng.
Piccola, German str., for Swatow.
Galsburg, German str., for Amoy.
Gruco, Dutch str., for Amoy.
Anton, German str., for Hoihow.
Cina, German str., for Swatow.
Fidilio, German str., for Singapore.
Glenarney, British str., for Nagasaki.
Ching Wo, British str., for Saigon.
Edwara, British bark, for Hoihow.
DEPARTURES.
May 21, TEHMAN, British str., for Yokohama.
May 21, LUTHERIA, German str., for Yokohama.
May 21, ACTY, Danish str., for Haiphong.
May 21, DAVILA, British str., for Haiphong.
May 21, BOINLO, Dutch str., for Amoy.
May 21, FIDELIO, German str., for Singapore.
May 21, GLENARNEY, British str., for Shanghai.
May 21, YAROSLAW, Russian str., for Vladivostok.
May 21, THALES, British str., for Swatow.
May 22, ANTON, German str., for Hoihow.
May 22, DENVER, British str., for Wooneng.
May 22, CHING-WE, British str., for Saigon.
May 22, CLARA, German str., for Swatow.
May 22, GLENARNEY, British str., for Nagasaki.
May 22, CLUCKENBORG, German str., for Amoy.
May 22, PATROCLUS, British str., for Shanghai.
May 22, PICCOLA, German str., for Swatow.
PASSENGERS.
ARRIVED.
Per Don Juan, str., from Manila—Mr. Otto Schaefer, 4 Europeans, and 120 Chinese, deck.
Per Haiphong, str., from Haiphong—Mr. and Mrs. Farbridge, Miss Bassell, and 103 Chinese.
Per Ulysses, str., from Shanghai, 50—860 Chinese.
Per Phra Chula Chom Kiao, str., from Bangkok—23 Chinese.
Per Propatita, str., from Saigon—Messrs. C. Kuch, A. Halka, and 140 Chinese.
Per Zonia, str., from Hongkong—From Yokohama—Messrs. Remedios, Kayama, Mashima, Kumi Taya, H. Iwamura, and James Stone. From Kobe—Messrs. L. Virgilio, L. Sander, and Pedersen. From Manila—From Yokohama—Messrs. M. Goto and Algie. From Kobe—Mr. Cremnitz.
REPORTS.
The German steamer Dubrog, from Singapore 15th May, reports had variable wind with squalls and rain.
The British steamer Haiphong, from Foochow 17th May, Amoy 18th, and Swatow 20th, reports from Foochow to Swatow had moderate N.E. winds and cloudy. From Swatow to port moderate easterly winds and overcast weather.
The British steamer Bayley, from Kuching 17th May, reports first and latter parts of the passage experienced fresh to moderate N.E. winds and rain; middle part light easterly winds and fine weather. To Kuching and Swatow moderate N.E. winds and cloudy. From Swatow to port moderate easterly winds and overcast weather.
The British steamer Phra Chula Chom Kiao, from Bangkok 15th May, reports had light S.W. winds and fine weather to Cape Yarella; thence fresh gale with terrific squalls to the Patroclus; thence variable between N.E. and W. and remainder of the passage moderate gale and squally between N.E. and E.S.E. had confused sea and heavy rain throughout.
The British steamer Propatita, from Saigon 17th May, reports had light variable winds and squally weather accompanied by thunder and lightning from Cape St. James to Cape Paduan; thence to arrival had strong wind from north to east with thick haze and squally weather with squalls of wind and rain with high confused sea, main deck being constantly flooded with water. At 5.30 p.m., 21st, passed a bark rigged vessel at anchor between Ragged Rock and Teimor Island.

INTELLIGENCE.

LIFE ASSURANCE.
WHEN it is remembered that a LIFE ASSURANCE CONTRACT may only fall to be fulfilled a quarter or even half a century after being entered into, it will be readily understood how important it is that the past record as well as the present management of the Office selected should be carefully considered. For Prospectuses and Annual Report of the STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

Apply to the
BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED,
905-1 Agents, Hongkong.

FRESH CIGARETTES

FOR SALE

KAISAR-I-HIND

STAR OF INDIA

KAVALA

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, 20th May, 1897. 125

W. BREWER has just received

Read's Engineer's Hand-Book.

Read's Extra Chief's Examination.

Read's Engineer's Private Log.

Spaul's Mechanic's Own Book.

Universal Instructor or Self Culture for all.

The Student's English Dictionary.

Deacon's Handbook of Law.

Deacon's Letter Writer's Vade Mecum.

Cook on Billiards.

Billiard's Simplified or how to make breaks.

Portuguese and English Letter Writer.

Statham's Year Book, 1887.

Colloquial Portuguese.

Parliamentary Procedure.

Grove of Commerce, 1887.

Iron Frame Trencher Planes by all the best makers, for sale on the monthly purchase system.

Pianos for Hire at reasonable rates.

Pianos Tuned.

W. B. R. E. R. Queen's Road.

UNION HONGKONG HOUSE.

KELLY & WALSHE, LIMITED

JUST RECEIVED

THE STATESMAN'S YEAR BOOK, 1887.

Arnold's India Revisited.

Paris Illustrated Again, by G. A. Sala—new and cheap Edition.

Romances and Opinions, by Sir F. H. Doyle.

Jills and other social photographs, by E. G. Gervill Murray.

Horse Racing in France, R. Black.

Flourishing "The Practical Horse Keeper."

Lilies "Basilisks in Christianity."

Verily's "Navies of the World."

A Short History of India, by J. Talboys Wheeler.

Kitch's Handbook of Physiology.

Electricity, its Theory, Sources and Application, by Sprague.

Practical Electricity, by W. E. Ayton.

The Steam Engine, by G. V. Holmes.

Macaulay's History of England, complete in 1 Vol.

Her Majesty's Colonies.

Macaulay's Theory and Practice of Banking.

Chap. Edmonds of "King Solomon's Mines."

"She," &c., &c.

Also, Just Issued

MEN OF THE TITANIC—12th Edition.

KELLY & WALSHE, LTD., HONGKONG.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the

VICTORIA REGISTRATION CLUB will be held in the

GYMNASIUM on THURSDAY NEXT, the

26th instant, at 5.30 P.M.

J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART,

Hon. Secretary.

V. R. C. 1006

ROWLANDS' KALYDOR

This medicine refreshes the face and hands of

all exposed to the hot sun and dust, eradicates

freckles, sunburn, tan, &c., and produces a

beautiful and delicate complexion.

ROWLANDS' ODORE

whitens the teeth, prevents decay, and gives a

pleasing fragrance to the breath.

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL

preserves and beautifies the hair, and can be

also had in a golden color.

Size 3/6; 7/-; 10/6.

Ask Chemists for Rowlands' Articles, of

20, Hatton Garden, London.

(102)

CHUN MOON, DECEASED.

NOTICE—LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION

have been granted by the Supreme Court to

No. FAY, and all persons having CLAIMS

against the Estate of the said CHUN MOON,

Deceased, are requested to send in particulars of

their Claims to me, the undersigned, Solicitor

for the Administrator, or to the said No. FAY, on

or before the 6th day of June, 1897.

Dated the 6th day of May, 1897.

HENRY J. HOLMES,

Solicitor for the Administrator.

24, Queen's Road, Hongkong

NOTICES OF FIRM.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Under-

signed has admitted CARL WBER-

GOVITZ as a PARTNER with him in the

Business of an INTERPRETER carried on by him at the

"ROSE, SHALIMORE, AND THISLE"

HOTEL, Queen's Road, Victoria.

S. LIBBERMANN.

Hongkong, 19th May, 1897. 1000

NOTICE

WE Have This DAY REMOVED to the

2nd Floor of No. 5, Queen's Road

Central.

Hongkong, 14th May, 1897. 1981

NOTICE

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK

COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS are

respectfully informed that if upon their

arrival in this Harbour, notice of the Company's

Fees should be at hand, orders for repairs if

sent to the Head Office, No. 14, Praya

Central will receive prompt attention.

In the event of complaints being found

necessary, communication with the Under-

signed, when immediate steps will be taken to

rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES,

Secretary.

Hongkong, 26th August, 1895. 133

YEE HUNG & Co.

COAL MERCHANTS,

have always on hand

LARGE STOCKS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

OF COAL.

Address—Care of Messrs. Kwon & Seng & Co.,

No. 63, PRAYA.

160

BANKS.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK

CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL—£2,000,000.

PAID UP—£500,000.

Registered Office, 40, THE ARCADE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives money on Deposit, and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

Interest allowed on Deposits:—

Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

Fixed for 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

Fixed for 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.

On Current Deposit Accounts 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the BALANCES of such Claims purchased on advantageous terms.

Agency of the NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

E. W. RUTTER, Manager, Hongkong Branch, Hongkong, 19th March, 1897. 120

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL—£7,500,000.

RESERVE FUND—£4,500,000.

RESERVE FUND FOR PROSECUTIONS—£7,500,000.

DIRECTORS:—

Chairman—M. GOSSET, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.

Hon. J. Bell, Esq.

Hon. J. L. Dalglish, Esq.

Hon. W. H. F. D'Almeida, Esq.

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NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

TO CONSIGNEES OF OPTIONAL CARGO

EX. O. S. S. CO. S. S. "PATROCLUS,"

FROM LIVERPOOL.

SHIPPING Orders must be obtained from the

Underwriter not later than the 26th inst.,

for shipment per steamer "PATROCLUS,"

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

question that remained unsettled even long after the Revolution was the understanding

...an Treaty Revision was the necessary
...the other day to a satisfactory conclu-
...It will doubtless be recollected by many
...of Kobe that shortly after the opening
...is port the Government sold a considerable
...er of lots upon the hill to foreigners, the
...agement being that the occupants were to
...ced upon the same footing as their Japa-
...neighbours in the matter of rent and taxes.
...ever, when the title deeds were made out

the authorities attempted to exact propertiestax from the foreign tenants, and after a bickering it was agreed to issue leases containing a provision that such rent should be as the Japanese Government and Consulate agree upon. From that time, eighteen months at the very least, no arrangement was effected until the other day, when the standing dispute was brought to an end. As we can ascertain, no difficulty was experienced in arriving at a settlement, for the contention so obstinately maintained by the

ness authorities during all these years was utterly untenable. The foreign holders we believe, to be placed on precisely the same position as Japanese owning land in the neighbourhood, and the truck rents to be paid not on those collected from natives. As a matter of interest on these rents was resolutely vetoed by the Consuls, so we are told, and subsequently abandoned. Perhaps it was only forward for the more sake of creating discussion, for the amount involved could only be a few hundred dollars. As the

Government, a mere obligation of the authorities refused during so many years to accede to the rents they have now agreed to, it is really to be expected that any Consul would so forget the rights of his nationals as to consider the circumstances to a demand for rents. Former foreign holders of those lands, on the other hand, may reasonably claim that the refusal to arrange these rents has probably prejudicially affected their properties, and the value of the holding; changed hands from time to time, and while the rent question remained

certain the value was considerably reduced. These losses there is, of course, no redress, and present proprietors now gain the benefit of settlement. By them the conclusion of this pending matter should be regarded with satisfaction, and outsiders may also feel inclined in the defeat of an effort to discriminate between Japanese and foreigners to the prejudice of the latter.—*Hioyo News*.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL IN JAPAN.
The Sydney Town and Country Journal says it seems highly probable that Japan will be eventually secured as a market for Australian wool. Several of the keenest and most energetic wool merchants of Sydney and Melbourne have for some time regarded the eastern island as its teeming population with longing eyes, and have dreamed of clothing the limbs of the dusky natives with the produce of the golden fleece of Australia.

lian pastures. Two things have hitherto been sufficiently powerful to overcome the efforts of so enlightened gentlemen, and to render their enterprise nugatory. They have had to contend the first place against the prejudices, vested interests, habits, and customs of the Japanese. These obstacles sufficiently difficult in themselves overcome at any rate. But they have been added doubly great by the apathy and absence of effort on the part of those who should be—and, indeed, are—the most interested—that is, the estate-owning growers themselves. As long as

great prices realised for wool in the English market continued, the squatter did not care to trouble himself about other markets. It was too much bother; and, as the sixth came rolling in, he thought he would trouble himself. But he was wrong in a fool's paradise. The fancy prices prevailing in England went down suddenly, and the world became poorer, and could not afford to buy fine woollen garments; and many had to be obliged to keep garments of any kind about them. Then the squatter awoke from his dream.

continued prosperity, and was sorry he had not assisted, in the time of his wealth and fate, to develop the power market among the at-eyed denizens of China and Japan. In the time of his trouble, when droughts prevailed, and there was very little wool and a very little power for his power of helping in the work was limited. The field had to be won. Practice, habit, and custom had to be overcome, and the forces of King Cotton conquered. The work was necessarily a long one, and the time to break on the enterprise was when resources

Squatters, being poor, could do little in such a campaign. Yet that was the time when they contemplated that they did not possess a market which, if they had tried to win it in the days of their strength, might have been theirs. They regretted as well as they could with their reduced forces; and the leaders of the movement were turned and began to hope. Then the good time turned, high prices in Europe magnificent

estures, millions of sheep and tons of wool, when Japan was forgotten again; and the old parts of the previously wrecked paradise were more inhabited. The squatters of Australia, as a body, don't care a fig for Japan or anything else just now. But the energetic gentleman to whom we have referred made haste while they could; and, though they have been once more deserted by those who should have helped to the most, they have done much toward the accomplishment of the object in view. Japan will soon have a market for Australian wool;

at a good beginning has been made, and it is
to believe that ultimate success is now within
conceivable distance. A project was set on foot
with the object of establishing a woollen manu-
facture in the country, in Joddo or Yokohama.
No progress has been made, however, owing to
the apathy of wool-growers here, who have shown
very little desire to help on a movement in which
they ought to be so much interested. Still good
results have followed. The subject has taken
root among the people of the country. An item

news just received is to the effect that a number of capitalists in Omi, Japan, will shortly start a woollen factory. Wool is rather necessary in a woollen factory, and if the project succeeds more will follow, and 30,000,000 people become new customers for the staple produce of Australia.

It is difficult, says a contemporary, to calculate with any degree of accuracy the armed strength of the Ghilzai tribe generally. Masson ascribes to the number of fighting-men at from 35,000 to 50,000, while other authorities make the number of families vary from 100,000 to 200,000. The former estimate is probably correct, as that was the number given by Broadfoot who had travelled much among the tribe. Lumsden held that not more than 30,000 good fighting-men could be collected out of the whole tribe, and that only a small number were actually willing to engage.

about one-tenth of these would be living in the state out of their own country. The two great sections are known as Turan and Buran respectively, and the Hotaks, who initiated the rising, are the most powerful clan of the Turan section. *The Times of India* has the following article on the affair:—The rising of the Ghilzais has, as a matter of course, attracted general attention to our present political relations with Afghanistan. Whether Abdul Rahman succeed in suppressing the rising or not, the result will be much the same, so far as India is concerned. Our confidence

the Amerc has received a shock which will render us very doubtful in the future as to the stability of his Government. And as for the present, it is quite time to enquire into the wisdom of the arrangements now in force. For a considerable time back many of the high military and civil authorities have been somewhat sceptical as to our policy in granting the large subsidy of a lakh a month to the Amerc—that is Rs. 12,00,000 or £120,000 per annum—without laying down definite stipulations as to the money was to be employed.

There would no doubt have been great difficulty in the actual exercise of any real control over such an understanding, but we seem to have acted wrongly in not making the matter one entirely of moral obligation. The fact is pretty well known, at all events in official circles, that Abdul Rahman instead of spending this lakh of rupees a month in strengthening his hold on the people, has preferred to hoard it up in a place of comparative security. This should, we think, have been foreseen from the first.

An adventurous and somewhat precarious career has from early years taught him to be careful of his future. For twelve years Abdul Rahman received 25,000 roubles yearly from the Czar, and he was understood to have saved four-fifths of it. These thrifty habits, however they may pay him in the long run, are likely to have disagreeable consequences just now. Renter's Bombay Agent has, we see from the current files, telegraphed home to the effect that the "Afghans say that

[illegible]

1976	& Co. OOFACK, Brit. str., Jaques.—Arnhold, K & Co.
	OXFORDSHIRE, Brit. str., Jones.—Rus Co.
the	PAETHA, Brit. str., Brough.—Adamson, Co.
o.	PORT VICTOR, Brit. str., Williams.—Sle & Co.
1976	VELOCITY, Brit. bk., Martin.—Gensalves

EXTRACT.

QUEEN STORY.

THE QUEEN AND THE STARVING.

JOHN MAYNE, and his young wife, Ellen, began their married life under the hospitable auspices. They were both young and hopeful. John was a clerk in the office of Messrs. Nutmeg & Co., colonial merchants, and as steady and industrious a young man as any within the four-mile radius. Ellen was quite a model housewife—frugal, without meanness, bright, cheerful, and good-natured. Before her marriage she had been an employed in a fancy-work shop, where her artistic taste in designing the fancy-work with which her richer sisters try to kill time by an imaginary industry, had commanded good pay and no little praise. But when she married John Mayne she threw up this employment, the cares of wifehood, and later on of motherhood, monopolizing all her time and thought.

For two years all went well with the young couple. John gave such satisfaction to his employers, that his salary was raised; and he was, therefore, able to move from his humble lodgings where he and his wife had lived since their marriage, to a small house at Walhamgrove. Within two months of their migration, however, a change for the worse came in their fortunes. Messrs. Nutmeg & Co. passed through the Bankruptcy Court; the business was wound up, and John Mayne was thrown out of employment. Every one knew that the demand for clerks is very much smaller than the supply. John had an excellent character from his late employers; but somehow the days and weeks went on, and he was still condemned to enforced idleness. To make matters worse, he got wet through one day after tramping about for hours from one office to another. Cold, and, on top of that, long fasting, brought on an attack of rheumatic fever, and Ellen, who could not bear to part with her husband, nursed him at home instead of allowing him to be moved to a hospital. Doctor's fees, and long clerical bills, and the cost of the nursing food necessary reduced Ellen's savings, to a minimum; but she was young and brave, and still hopeful of better days, in spite of all her present cares. She took in plain-sewing, for which, of course, she got but scanty payment, the middle-man, who flourishes at the expense of the worker, taking the best part of the profit. By working sixteen hours a day, however, Ellen managed to keep the bread and butter coming, and gradually her husband struggled back to comparative health. As soon as he was strong enough, he sought again for work. But bad trade and an overstocked labour-market were against him, and his search was again fruitless. Then his courage began to fail; the fever had left him pale and weak, and the rheumatic pain, which symptoms of heart-disease showed themselves. One dreadful day he fell at his wife's feet in a dead faint. Terrified at his death-like look, Ellen sent a neighbour's child for a medical man. As kindly as he could, the doctor told her the sad truth. Her husband was suffering from the most dangerous form of heart-disease. With the greatest care, he might live for years, but all over-work and excitement was to be avoided.

Ellen listened with a failing heart. Her scanty wages barely sufficed to supply the necessities of life; she herself was growing daily thinner and weaker from hard work and poor food; and now this last and terrible blow put the finishing touch to her weakness. Where could she turn for assistance? For neither she nor her husband had any near relatives.

For a few more weeks the brave little woman toiled on at her plain-sewing; but her food was weak tea and a little bread, as the larger half of her scanty earnings were devoted to the payment of the rent of their own room. They had, of course, given up the house at Walhamgrove, and sold the furniture; the proceeds of the sale clearing off the debts the poor wife had been forced to contract during her husband's illness. What remained she spent in dainties for John and milk for the child. But at last even this little store was exhausted.

One Saturday night she took her weekly pill of work as usual to the warehouse, and was curiously told that she was dismissed with about forty or fifty others. Trade was bad, and likely to be worse before the winter was over. The few shillings that she then received for her work was, therefore, all that stood between her and starvation, or the alternative, almost as terrible to the poor—the workhouse.

When Ellen reached home she found the landlady of the house where she and her husband lodged waiting for her at the door. "Your master's in a dead faint, Mrs. Mayne, and I can't get him to. Shall I send for the doctor?"

The doctor arrived within five minutes; but one glance at the patient sufficed. John Mayne was dead—had been dead for an hour, at least.

For some days the poor young widow sunk under the weight of her sorrows. The landlady, who was a kind-hearted woman, looked after the child, and tried to cheer the bereaved wife. After the funeral Ellen was forced to dry her tears and take the cross world again. The poor cannot nurse their grief like the rich. Ellen knew that she must work or starve. For herself she would not have cared, but there was the child; she must work for her child's sake.

But, unfortunately, the wish to work does not always ensure employment. Ellen tried many things; she worked button-holes at a farthing a dozen, then she went to the laundry, and then she did the last remnant of her pride; she put on and again a day's work as a charwoman. But her health grew daily worse, and her poor thin arms had not strength for the rough work of scrubbing and window-cleaning.

It was a long struggle against overwhelming odds. Many times the creature was tempted to creep into her husband's grave and take that last desperate leap over London-bridge, and so end the struggle. But love for her child held her back. She could not bear to leave poor baby's life, and she could not die and leave it to the tender mercy of strangers.

One day the landlady came up to Ellen's attic with a newspaper in her hand, and said, "My dear, this is the very thing for you," she said triumphantly. "Just read this advertisement."

Ellen took the newspaper eagerly and read it.

Employment for women at their own homes—Work given from two to ten shillings a day. Work easy. No previous experience necessary. Send stamped envelope, or apply personally to the Ethio Company, 49, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.

"I don't often see a newspaper," pursued the landlady, eagerly. "One of the ground-floor lodgers gave it me to read about the Keating Down murder, and that advertisement just caught my eye. It sounds very good, doesn't it? Go and see if you can't get a better place than this."

Ellen took the landlady's advice. Tottenham Court Road was a long way from Walhamgrove; and, when she reached the office of the Ethio Company, she found a bland, looked-on woman, who answered her timid inquiries and produced some scraps of silk and velvet, a few tubes of paint, a brush, or two, and a small bottle of what she called "medium."

"The work requires no experience," my good woman. We give lessons at a moderate fee, and, when perfect, we guarantee to find you

regular employment. The rate of remuneration is good, from two to ten shillings a day, according to the skill and quickness of the pupil. Our advertisements are all that." "Yes, sir. I think I could do the work," Ellen answered, quickly. "Could you give me an order to-day?"

The manager of the Ethio Company raised his eyebrows appreciatively.

"We cannot give out work without some security. You must deposit a guinea with us to cover the cost of the materials."

A guinea! He might as well have asked for a hundred pounds. How was she to scrape together twenty shillings, and a whole guinea, make up your mind, my woman!

There are plenty of people wanting work, and we have hundreds of pupils," answered the manager, in a superior tone. He was running over in his mind the large number of clients his numerous work-agencies had brought him, and of the very lucrative business resulting therefrom.

"I haven't a guinea, sir," she faltered, with tears in her eyes, "but the landlady of the house where I lodge will tell you that I am honest."

"We don't do business in that way. If you haven't the money we can't give you the work."

The woman turned away despairingly, and went heavily down the stairs and out into the street. An endless stream of carriages, cabs, and omnibuses flowed down the broad thoroughfare. Ellen looked at the well-dressed women in the carriages, and wondered if they had ever felt sorrow like hers. The cost of one of those grand gowns would keep her and her child for a year.

It is hard for starving people to be honest," she thought, as she glanced at the sparkling wares in the jewellers' shops. "Rich people ought to be very good. I wonder if any of those ladies know how hard it is for the poor to keep respectable."

I only want one guinea for the materials," she sighed and trusted away homewards, thinking how that guinea could be honestly earned. Her hands were clasped together under her thin shawl, for the afternoon was bitterly cold. Her fingers closed round her wedding-ring. It was the only thing of value the poor soul had kept. She had a superstitious horror of parting with it. John had said that the ring was his wife's, and she thought that she would rather die than part with it. Now it hung loose on her wasted finger, and she twisted it round, wondering if she could get a guinea for it.

For the child's sake," she said to herself at last, as she halted before a pawnbroker's shop.

But the ring only fetched seven shillings. Somehow, the ring must be earned. For the next few days Ellen was unremitting in her efforts to scrape together those fourteen shillings. The money she had got for the ring she regularly set aside, in spite of the terrible pangs of hunger from which she suffered. Twice she got a day's earnings, and once or twice she was successful in getting some needlework to do, but all in vain, at starvation pay. At the end of about three weeks, however, she had a guinea in silver, tied in the corner of an old pocket-handkerchief, and she carried it joyfully to the office of the Ethio Company, 500, Tottenham Court Road.

"There is the money, sir," she said, eagerly, to the bland clerk; "may I take the work home with me?"

"It will be another guinea to have lessons; but you can do the work quite well if you follow the printed directions."

"I am afraid I couldn't pay another guinea," she answered, faintly; "but I will do my best to do the work well. Good afternoon, sir—thank you."

Ellen did not find the work difficult. On the contrary, it seemed to require little ingenuity and less taste. The scraps of silk and velvet were to be coarsely painted after a copy supplied with the materials. Ellen's natural taste enabled her to do more than justice to the copy. The landlady, delighted that she would so easily earn the maximum sum the prospectus of the Ethio Company promised its workers.

"Never mind about the rent of your room, Mrs. Mayne; we'll pay you when you are in regular work," he said, kindly.

In a few days Ellen had painted all the work. Full of renewed hope, she walked down Tottenham Court Road.

"I hope the work is done to your satisfaction, sir," she said to the manager, who was not quite so bland in manner as her first visit.

He looked at it carefully. "It seems pretty well done. Leave it with me, and you can call again in a week for the rent."

But, sir, cannot you pay me now—a trifle for it? I am so desperately poor. I am very poor, and I have a child at home."

"I've nothing to do with your poverty. Call at the end of a week, and you shall have a further supply of work."

Ellen thought despairingly, "How am I to live through the week! Mrs. Hart will not care to wait much longer for the rent."

But it was quite useless to argue the matter. The work was not finished at last, and she threatened to send for the police if she did not leave the office. Trembling and sick at heart, the woman obeyed, and dragged her weary limbs home to the cold attic where her child lay asleep. She sat down by the bed, and looked at the poor, pale, pinched face upon the pillow. But her eyes were blinded with tears, and she could not see how terribly the little face had changed.

By and by, Mrs. Hart came up. She looked grave, when she heard Ellen's story. "I am very sorry for you, my dear; but you see I have to live. If you can't pay my rent, I'm afraid—"

"Oh, don't turn me out!" pleaded Ellen. "Grant me one more week. I do really think that I can now make my work in the end."

Mrs. Hart was not a hard woman, so she agreed to give her longer another chance. At the end of the week, Ellen took her child in her arms, and went down to tell the landlady that she was going to Tottenham Court Road.

Arrived at the office, she saw, to her surprise, that the electric entrance was crowded with women and girls, some bearing the unmistakable mark of the "poor lady," some smartly-dressed young women of the shop-girl class. The door of the office was shut, and there was a notice posted on it to the effect that the premises were to let.

"What has happened?" asked Ellen of one of the women.

"The Ethio Company is a swindle; that's all," was the answer. "I suppose you paid your guinea?"

"Yes," said Ellen, faintly.

"Well, you are swindled, my dear, like the rest of us. It's hard, but the world is hard on poor women. I'm real sorry for you; and if you like to come along with me, we'll go together to another place where I've heard women can get some new kind of fancy work that's going to be the fashion."

Starting people, like drowning people, will catch at straws. The woman had a kind face, and Ellen knew that it was useless to wait at the closed office-door. She resolved, therefore, to go with her new friend. As they trudged through the crowded streets, these two sisters in adversity exchanged confidences, and found that their experiences had been somewhat similar. Both had fought a hard fight against poverty, and both were then without a shilling in the world.

"If we can't get work at this other place," the woman said, "I'd rather die than go into the workhouse."

"So would I," said Ellen, clasping her baby closer to her bosom.

The office of the Penelope Company was out of Holborn, and when the two women arrived there they found a considerable number of people crowding round the door. They waited patiently for their turn, hoping that at length the longed-for work would be given them.

"This looks more like business, doesn't it?" said Ellen's new friend. "They seem to employ a lot of people."

The two women pressed near to the long counter where the work was being handed out by a soft-spoken, well-dressed gentleman and a couple of assistants.

Ellen noticed that money was being handed across the counter, but it seemed to be paid by, and not to the workers. This rather dampened her hopes, but she went straight up to the well-dressed gentleman.

"Excuse me, I am in search of work," she began, timidly. The gentleman's back was turned when she commenced to speak. He looked round, however, at the sound of her voice, and, to her astonishment, Ellen saw before her the bland Manager of the Ethio Company!

On recognizing Ellen and seeing him about the guinea she had paid to the Ethio Company, he called her a lying impostor, and before she could argue the matter or say another word, she found herself rudely handled and turned out into the streets.

Heart-broken she wended her way back to her lodging. On telling her pitiful story, Mrs. Hart was loud in her expressions of wrath.

"What are the police doing? It's a sin and a shame that such a wicked swindler should go unpunished. I will go to the police-station with you and expose the scoundrel."

And they went; but all the satisfaction they received was the intimation that it was not a matter for the police, and that they had better consult lawyers.

As starting people cannot pay lawyers, the Manager of the Penelope is, doubtless, still carrying on his swindling career, and adding daily to his already long list of Ellen Maynes.

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